

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 618

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FOR LORTON, NEA/INS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, NP

SUBJ: CORONATION ARRANGEMENTS

REF: KATHMANDU 5307

1. EMBASSY HAS NOW RECEIVED OFFICIALLY FROM MFA A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE CORONATION IN A PAPER HEADED "HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CORONATION PROGRAMME (TENTATIVE)." THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS PAPER ON EACH OF THE EIGHT SCHEDULED EVENTS IS SET FORTH BELOW IN THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE: A) DATE; B) TIME; C) FUNCTION; D) PLACE; E) DRESS (FOR NEPALESE OFFICIALS); AND F) DECORATION.

EVENT NO. 1:

A. FEBRUARY 23

B. EVENING

C. RECEPTION

D. ROYAL PALACE

E. FORMAL (BLACK)

F. MINIATURES

EVENT NO. 2:

A. FEBRUARY 23

B. EVENING

C. CULTURAL PROGRAMME

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D. ROYAL ACADEMY HALL

E. FORMAL (BLACK)  
F. ROSETTE

EVENT NO. 3:

A. FEBRUARY 24  
B. APPROX. 7:30 A.M.  
C. CORONATION  
D. HANUMAN DHOKA  
E. FORMAL (BLACK/GREY)  
F. CHAIN, ROBE, SASH; FULL DECORATIONS (TIARA FOR LADIES)

EVENT NO. 4:

A. FEBRUARY 24  
B. AFTERNOON  
C. PROCESSION TO TUNDIKHEL  
D. TUNDIKHEL  
E. FORMAL (BLACK/GREY)  
F. CHAIN, ROBE, SASH; FULL DECORATIONS (TIARA FOR LADIES)

EVENT NO. 5:

A. FEBRUARY 24  
B. EVENING  
C. DINNER  
D. ROYAL PALACE  
E. FORMAL (BLACK)  
F. ONE DECORATION WITH SASH, MINIATURES (TIARA FOR LADIES)

EVENT NO. 6:

A. FEBRUARY 25  
B. 12:00 NOON  
C. LUNCH  
D. FOREIGN MINISTRY BANQUET HALL  
E. FORMAL (BLACK/GREY)  
F. ROSETTE

EVENT NO. 7:

A. FEBRUARY 25  
B. 16:00 HOURS  
C. DEVELOPMENT EXHIBITION  
D. BHTIKUTI MANDAP  
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E. FORMAL (BLACK)  
F. ROSETTE

EVENT NO. 8:

A. FEBRUARY 25  
B. EVENING  
C. RECEPTION  
D. ROYAL PALACE

E. FORMAL (BLACK)

F. MINIATURES

2. THE ABOVE INFORMATION SUPPLEMENTS AND IN SOME RESPECTS AMENDS THE INFORMATION ON FUNCTIONS AND DRESS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED BY THE EMBASSY IN PARAGRAPH 5 OF REFTEL.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT INDIVIDUAL INVITATIONS WILL BE ISSUED BY THE GON FOR THE VARIOUS EVENTS AND THAT NOT ALL MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS WILL NECESSARILY RECEIVE INVITATIONS TO ALL EVENTS. SPACE LIMITATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO RESTRICT THE NUMBER WHO CAN BE PRESENT IN THE INNER COURTYARD OF HANUMAN DHOKA WHERE THE ACTUAL CORONATION WILL TAKE PLACE. THE SAME THING MAY BE TRUE OF THE FEBRUARY 25 LUNCHEON TO BE HOSTED BY THE PRIME MINISTER, SINCE THE BANQUET HALL IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BUILDING IS NOT LARGE.

4. THE GUIDANCE CONCERNING DRESS AND DECORATIONS FOR THE VARIOUS EVENTS (POINTS E AND F ABOVE) IS CAREFULLY DESCRIBED AS APPLICABLE TO NEPALESE OFFICIALS. SO FAR AS DRESS FOR FOREIGN GUESTS IS CONCERNED, THE PROTOCOL OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS MADE CLEAR THAT IT INTENDS TO CONFINE ITSELF TO THE GENERAL STATEMENT THAT FOREIGN GUESTS SHOULD WEAR WHAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO SUCH CEREMONIES AND SOCIAL EVENTS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES AND THEIR OWN PRACTICE. A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS, OF COURSE, SUCH AS THOSE OF THE PRC, INDIA, BANGLADESH, BURMA AND THE USSR, WILL FOLLOW THEIR ESTABLISHED PATTERNS OF NATIONAL DRESS FOR THE VARIOUS CORONATION EVENTS. FOR OTHERS THE CHOICES IN SOME CASES MAY BE LESS AUTOMATIC. WE WILL PASS ON ANY USEFUL RESULTS OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AMONG MISSIONS HERE ON DRESS FOR THE CORONATION, A SUBJECT WHICH THE DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, SOVIET AMBASSADOR KIRNASOVSKY, DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE UP IN THE CORPS.  
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5. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES PARTICULARLY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THE JUDGMENT OF THE OFFICE OF PROTOCOL BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THE QUESTION OF DRESS FOR THE VARIOUS CORONATION EVENTS, A SUBJECT WHICH IS LIKELY TO BE RAISED SHORTLY AFTER THE NAMING OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION.

6. IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT NEPALESE PROTOCOL AS DETAILED IN THE NEPAL GAZETTE SPECIFIES FOUR LEVELS OF FORMAL DRESS AND DECORATIONS FOR DAYTIME WEAR AND THREE FOR EVENING WEAR. THE DRESS AND DECORATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NEPALESE FOR THE CORONATION ITSELF AND THE PROCESSION TO THE TUNDIKHEL ARE THOSE OF THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF FORMALITY IN NEPALESE PROTOCOL FOR DAYTIME OCCASIONS. THE FEBRUARY 24 DINNER AT THE ROYAL PALACE IS SIMILARLY INDICATED TO BE OF THE HIGHEST

DEGREE OF FORMALITY FOR EVENING EVENTS. THE TWO RECEPTIONS AT THE ROYAL PALACE ARE INDICATED BY DRESS AND DECORATION REQUIREMENTS TO BE OF THE NEXT-TO-THE-HIGHEST DEGREE OF FORMALITY FOR EVENING OCCASIONS UNDER NEPALESE PROTOCOL. THE DRESS AND DECORATIONS STIPULATED FOR EVENTS NUMBERED 2 AND 7 (PARA 1 ABOVE) PLACE THEM IN THE LOWEST OF THE THREE LEVELS OF ATTIRE FOR FORMAL EVENING FUNCTIONS ON THE BASIS OF NEPALESE PROTOCOL, AND EVENT NUMBER 6 (THE LUNCHEON AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY) IS SIMILARLY IN THE LOWEST OF THE FOUR LEVELS OF ATTIRE FOR FORMAL DAYTIME OCCASIONS.

7. WE NOTE THAT THREE OF THE EVNETS LISTED ABOVE SPECIFY "TIARA FOR LADIES," I.E., FOR NEPALESE DRESS. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW FROM S/CPR WHETHER THE WEARING OF THE TIARA IS A PART OF AMERICAN USAGE IN RELATION TO CORONATIONS, WHETHER IT IS NOT DONE, OR WHETHER IT IS OPTIONAL. THE BRITISH EMBASSY SAYS IT IS VERY MUCH IN THEIR TRADITION, AND WE GATHER THE FRENCH EMBASSY INDICATES THE SAME. EMBASSY KATHMANDU HAS NO RESIDENT EXPERTISE ON THIS POINT.

8. ONE PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION IN RELATION TO ATTIRE IS THAT THE CORONATION ITSELF, TO BE HELD OUT-OF-DOORS IN A COURTYARD OF HANUMAN DHOKA, WILL BEGIN AT ABOUT 7:30 IN THE MORNING WHEN THE TEMPERATURE CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE QUITE COLD, PROBABLY IN THE RANGE OF 35-45 DEGREES FARENHEIT. THUS COATS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE OUTER ATTIRE WILL PROBABLY BE DESIRABLE AT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUTSET, ALTHOUGH MIDDAY TEMPERATURES PROBABLY WILL BE IN THE LOW SEVENTIES. CARGO

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